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MISSOULA MUSIC CONFERENCE
TO FEATURE NOTED PIANISTS

Missoula--

Several piano sessions are on the program of the Western Division Conference of the Music Teachers National Association, according to the 1970 conference chairman, Dean Charles W. Bolen of the University of Montana School of Fine Arts.

Pianists involved in the conference on campus July 19-22 include Thomas Schumacher, Vitya Vronsky and Victor Babin, Mark Westcott, Bela Siki, Dr. Elena Ferrari Barassi, Paul D. Pollei and Lucien Hut.

Schumacher, a native of Butte, will give a recital Monday, July 20, at 8:15 p.m. in the UM Music Recital Hall. Currently artist-in-residence at the University of Maryland, he is an alumnus of both the Manhattan and the Juilliard Schools of Music. He has appeared as soloist with the New York Philharmonic and other leading orchestras in the United States, Poland and Japan. He has won the Busoni Competition in Bolzano, Italy, and several other awards.

Duo-pianists Vronsky and Babin will present a recital Wednesday, July 22, at 8:15 p.m. in the Recital Hall. The husband-wife team will also conduct master classes at the conference. The artists were born the same year in Russia but did not meet until they were 17 and both students of Artur Schnabel in Berlin. Babin is a composer and the director of the Cleveland Institute of Music. He and his wife have performed with all the major American orchestras.

(more)

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Dr. Barassi, pianist and musicologist from Milan, Italy, will give lecture-demonstrations for the conference junior piano section. Her topics include "Italian Keyboard Music" and "Problems of Music Education in Europe and the Americas." Educated at the Universities of Milan and Parma, she has taught at the University of Milan and at the Italian Studies Center of the Oregon State System of Higher Education at the University of Pavia.

Westcott will participate in junior piano sessions, discussing "Adjudication and Preparing for Auditions." The Portland, Ore., pianist was third-place winner in the 1969 Van Cliburn Competitions and first-place winner among contestants from the United States.

Siki, a member of the music faculty of the University of Washington, will give lecture-demonstrations on the music of Chopin at the senior piano sessions.

Hut, a graduate and a former faculty member of the Rotterdam, Holland, Royal Conservatory, will give a lecture-demonstration on "A Comparative Analysis of Baroque Keyboard Music Interpreted on the Clavichord, Harpsichord and Piano." He has been a member of the UM piano faculty since 1967.

Pollei, with his Brigham Young University faculty colleague, violinist Percy Kalt, will present a lecture-recital on "Beethoven Sonatas for Violin and Piano."

Carla Wood Vincent, Portland, Ore., and Caroline Allen, Olympia, Wash., are the respective chairmen of the junior and senior piano sections.

The conference also includes sections on strings, organ, voice, and musicology and theory.

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